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occasional shell deposits, until Chokoloskee key, Monroe county, was reached. This is a roundish island about half a mile in diameter, and is almost entirely covered with great shell deposits, with lofty works, graded ways, canals, and the like. One of the shell mounds is 27 feet in height. Numerous specimens of shell implements, as well as articles of stone and bone, were obtained from the island.

The author adds a section describing the interesting shell implements of southwest Florida, accompanied with numerous illustrations.

The enterprising character of the west-coast peoples is fully indicated by the prevalence of shell deposits and the extent and variety of monumental remains. The latter include mounds of various shapes — flat, truncated, and conical — graded ways, long ridges, embankments and breakwaters, and sunken courts and canals. With reference to the character of the dwellings and other buildings, but little is known beyond the facts ascertained by Mr Cushing on Key Marco, but it is probable that the pile-dwelling was of frequent occurrence among the keys. The artifacts include pottery, mostly in fragments and of varieties common in Florida. There are the well-made vessels with incised decoration most common on the western side of the peninsula, cruder pottery showing characteristics of the west, and occasional specimens of the stamped ware—the prevailing variety in the St John region. Shell utensils, implements, and ornaments cover the usual range; and stone implements, though comparatively rare, are mainly of usual types and indicate skill in all the processes of stone working. The specimens collected affiliate with the art of the known tribes of the southern states and appear to convey no suggestion of close relationship with the peoples of the West Indies, Yucatan, or South America.

W. H. HOLMES.

Das Blut im Glauben und Aberglauben der Menschheit. Mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der "Volksmedizin" und des "jüdischen Blutritus."

Von HERMANN L. STRACK. München : C. H. Beck'sche Verlagsbuchhandlung, 1900. 12°, xii, 208 pp.

This revised edition of an earlier work by the same author is a careful and comprehensive review of the uncanny superstitions in connection with the use of human blood and various portions of the human corpse in European folk-medicine and occult ritual. Special attention is given to the reputation of the old story that the Jews, in their Paschal ceremony, make use of the blood of a Christian child sacrificed for that purpose. Although it has repeatedly been proven that this accusation is an ignorant slander, yet within a year it has been revived in Bohemia, with tragic

results to the accused race. The author, who, as he expressly states, is German, a Christian by all his ancestry, has felt it his duty as a Christian minister and student of religions to stay the hand of persecution by correcting the error. He proves conclusively that the story is only another form of the old European superstition that youth and health may be restored by bathing in the blood of pure children. Other chapters deal with the superstitious eating of human flesh, the cure of disease by touching the body of an executed person, the candle held in a dead hand, by means of which thieves may steal without awaking the sleepers, etc., and an interesting section deals with the legal aspect of crimes committed under the influence of such beliefs. Altogether the work is a remarkable contribution to the history of occult ritual as existing side by side with the highest development of civilization. Among the numerous references we notice none from American sources.

JAMES MOONEY.

Les races de l'Europe. I. L'indice céphalique en Europe. Par J. DENIKER. (Association française pour l'avancement des sciences. Congrès de St Etienne. Paris: 1899.)

The present work of Dr Deniker, of Paris, completes his two previous preliminary papers on the anthropology of Europe (*Bulletin de la Société d'Anthropologie de Paris*, 1897, and *l'Anthropologie*, 1898) and forms the first part of his final memoir, which treats only of the cephalic index.

Even a superficial perusal of the contents and a glance at the accompanying colored map show the immense amount of labor bestowed on the subject. Deniker has analyzed and utilized all that has been published in different languages on the craniometry and cephalometry of European peoples. The total number of indices examined represents at least 380,000 measured individuals and skulls.

Deniker comes to the conclusion that the cephalic indices are distributed over four large, well-defined areas, shown on his map, viz., a dolichocephalic area, with mesocephalic *enclaves*, in the north; another more pronounced dolichocephalic area in the south; an area of strongly brachycephalic heads in the center of western Europe, and, finally, a sub-brachycephalic area in eastern Europe. Between these areas intermediate regions of cephalic indices and white spots, the latter indicating lack of data, are found. According to the cephalic index alone Deniker distinguishes four races in Europe, but when other physical characteristics are taken into account he comes to the conclusion that not fewer than six principal and four secondary races are represented in Europe.